

Conversation with 23 year old female, Reinholds, Pennsylvania (Transcription)

<unintelligible text> Tape No. 3---Hiffines W237

START <MP?> A(1)

CF

<unintelligible text> Okay

LH

CF Monday's my day to run around and get everything done that has to be because I work Saturday. <so that?> <unintelligible text> every - Yeah, I have my own business. And, like I work Tuesday to Saturday 'cause most of the people want their hair, I'm a hairdresser, right?

LH

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CF And most of the stuff, well they want to get their hair done the end of the week. So then my weekend starts Saturday night and goes till Monday.

LH

CF Instead of Friday night till Sunday, it's Saturday night and then Sunday and Monday. And Sunday there's usually not that much to do in the first place so you do it Monday. Now this week I'm helping at Bible School Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. I said, "I can't Thursday and Friday." So they hire me for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday because Thursday and Friday I just can't. I'm too busy back at the shop, but that keeps you stepping. Between doing that and then I'm, I help with girl scouts <unintelligible text> that go here too. Yeah I have, I'd be at Virginia right now, but I have plans to away in October for 2 weeks. I'm taking my vacation then, so I said, "I'm not going to take off." They left Friday and they went down to Chincateague. But Friday, Saturday, Sunday, they're coming back today sometime or tonight. I don't know when they're even coming back. <But?> Oh gees, so I said, "If it wouldn't be I'm taking vacation," I said, "I'd go, but," I said, "I'm already taking vacation in October and this I planned since last August or what I want to do.

LH

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CF From about Thursday's on. Few on a Wednesday, but then Thursday and Friday and Saturday are the regular ones. And they <unintelligible text> I don't trust <unintelligible text>. He likes people's legs, hands, all

LH:

CF: He's had a couple guys by the pant legs already. That's encouraging to find

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out. That's why I left him out. I thought it's nice today, I'll just leave him out in the yard. But uh, yeah from about Thursdays on I have, <unintelligible text>, on a Saturday I start at 6 o'clock in the morning.

LH

CF Um hum.

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LH

CF I used to work down in Reading before I had my shop, and there like su, over the summer we started at 7. But normally our hours were 8-4, except oh I think it was June, July, and August. I knew July and August for sure. Then we started 7-3, so we'd get out a little earlier. And they used to think 7 was early. And I thought you know 7 for up here is you know not that early. People around here get up you know. And I have a regular one that comes at 6:00 every Saturday morning.

LH

CF No, but she's an ederly woman and she used to she gets up at 5:00. Regardless whether she has to go to work or not, she always gets up at 5:00 in the morning.

LH

CF I'n not crazy about it, but I have no choice. I get up. I say, "It's only one morning out of the week I get, I have to get up at 5:00 oclock. But then, well Saturday's or Fridays I start at 7:30 in the morning and on a Thursday 8:00. And the rest of the week if I don't have to I don't start before 9. If I don't have to. Sometimes, if I have no other choice I will. But now

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this week I can't Tuesday, Wednesday I'm only starting after dinner 'cause I'm gonna' be back at Bible School. from 9-11:30 these two mornings <unintelligible text> , but then I'm just pushing everybody into the afternoon. But I have no regular ones coming Tuesdays and Wednesday. Except this Wednesday, every other Wednesday I go to a woman who's an invalid, and I wash and set em in the morning, and in the afternoon, by then they're dry and the-n I go up and comb her out. So I have to do that before I go back and then I'm going back to <unintelligible text> and to that and then come back and work again

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LH

CF uh, It's not even a half a mile, it's just right outside of town. It's close enough in the winter when it snows I can walk. Because I'm deathly afraid to drive in snow. So if I don't have to I walk back. So, it's not, it's just only <unintelligible text> these back streets here. It used to be an old chicken house. And years ago before my time it was a cigar factory. <unintelligible text>

LH

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CF And then it was a house. That's what they tell me. This was before, The cigar factory, then it was a house , then my grandfather bought the building and it's now a chick, it used to be a chicken house, may be like ten years ago. Then for a long time it was empty, and then when I started with the hairdressing thing, I wanted my own shop. But it was the state laws that it had to be a certain amount you know a certain length and everything else. And he said I can have one of these <unintelligible text> downstairs for a shop. So I grabbed it at the chance. So we fixed it up. It's four years ago now that we fixed it up.

LH

CF Yeah, I work alone. It's big enough I could at least have onne- one other helper besides, but then you run into so much hassle that way w too. And it's I think I'd just rather do it, do what I can by myself. So, it gets a little rowdy back there sometimes. They kid the hang out of me, but what the heck it's all in fun till it gets a little loud. I know somebody the other week said they drove past and they blew as they drove past. Over the weekend they saw me. They said,"Did you hear ? We blew." I said," When?" "Thursday morning." I said, " I never even heard it." But I said,"There's dryers on and I said, "There were about three women in there the shop at the time." And I said, " The three of <unintelligible text> those are all talking at one time." I said,"No wonder I didn't hear you." It gets loud. But uh, that's where I am from Tuesday to Saturday <unintelligible text> there.

LH

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CF It's mos ah ha I was just working on a project last night. We're making

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a seed picture tomorrow.

LH

CF Out of seeds. Out of split peas for the leaves, watermelon seeds for the base, and bird seed for the trunk. So I was working on that last night. My grandmother had us back for supper. So there were plenty of other people to help clean up, so I said, " I'm gonna", I snuck in the other room. I got most of it done then I don't have to do it tonight. Cause I knew I need it by Tuesday <unintelligible text> yesterday back at church. So I was doing that. Now today and tomorrow I said I'll <unintelligible text>- teach those two days. And the other girl that's helping is just going to have to teach Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Cause Thursday, Friday I won't be there. And Wednesday I won't be there right away in the morning count a doing this woman's hair. So that's gonna' keep me busy.

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LH

CF It's about a year now I been doing it. She gets around with a walker so she can she had a stroke, I don't know how many years ago? So she gets around with a walker. So we wash her hair at the kitchen sink and then I go up and set her then or a comb their out in the afternoon.

LH

CF I don't think she gets out that much. I said that's one way she sees somebody every two weeks besides the her relations and stuff. But she likes to know what I did you know over the past 2 weeks from the time I had been up and stuff. She often asks, "Well, do you have anything going thru the weekend?" You know, and she likes to hear the stuff I'm doing. Probably gives her something to think of besides what she always thinks of.

LH

CF Yeah. Right up here across the street from where the doctor doctor lives. It'd be, you probably passed it comin' down 897. There's another one of those side streets that turns off. It's one of those. So I noticed <unintelligible text> one time she called

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<what?> she said, "Do you make house calls?" I said, "ha." I thought well why not I never tried it before. So I figured O.K. So I said, "Well I can." You know. So I went up. Then we started. Every 2 weeks I go up now.

LH

CF She has her own rollers. So all I got to do is take the shampoo and the conditioner along, and a coup, a couple combs and setting lotion. That's all. And then hair spray in the afternoon when I go up. Tuesday I set everything out so I can just grab it. Cause usually Wednesday morning I'm just in a rush, and then I just grab everything as I go. But I don't mind doing it. It so, it sort of goofs you up sometimes, but I said well you can sort of make up for it. I just have to allow time to go up there. And then when I get up there I end up talking that I can usually figure I'm up there an hour. So I usually allow an hour time becuase if not I a- just ain't gonna' make it back in time. Cause she sits and she talks, and then I talk and then uhhh ... Then I don't get away, and I keep saying, "Well I got a go." "Well why don't you sit down?"

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"No I'm not sitting down or I know I won't go." So I never sit down or I know I'll never get off. But then in the afternoon she sits and watches her soap operas. So then usually because I don't get a chance to in the day to see em, she fills me in what happened the last 2 weeks. Because I always get up by 'bout 'bout 2:30 in the afternoon is usually a good time before, like a lot of people around here work so from 3:30 on is when I watch want have to to come call them if they want hair cuts and stuff. So then I got a sort of work it like at 2:30 if the people that don't work, but a lot of people around here do work. So, I sort of get up before the evening ones that start coming. Cause a lot most of my work these evenings and Saturdays. Because of well, a lot of people work after 3:30. That's when a lot come in.

LH

CF Yeah. Um hm, yeah.

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LH

CF I went to Reading to school.

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LH

CF Um hm. Somebody just asked me the other week how long it took me. I went 6 days a week, so I could get done. And it took me, I just figured it out last weekend, it took me 8 month to finish it, to finish school. I graduated the beginning of June and about 2 weeks after that I started beauty school.

LH

CF Well, the first 3 hun, by state law, now the first 300 hours a you can't work on people. You gotta work on a dummy. OH.. It's a little head. <unintelligible text> It's about, it's about the life, a life size head. And you give it hair cuts till you, and when you start, the ting is fairly long. And till you get finished it's so short you can't hardly do anything with it. And you set it, and you cut it.

LH

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CF It's human hair, but it's not like, it's in chunks on that head. It's not like hair. So, and it's worse, working on a human head is good compared, if you can survive working on that thing, than you'll survive working-on anything. So, I know we had started in the summer , and it was in the fall then before we Then what they do is like , well by state law it's 300, but I know they didn't need us out on what they call the clinic floor. That's set up right like a regular beauty shop would be. And you work on w people that come in, and they pay , <unintelligible text> but they only... Well I know when I wen t down it was, I think it was \$ 1.25, \$ 1.50 to get your hair done. It's a lot cheaper thangoing in a shop. And people come in you know and then, but I mean they take the risk you know, you don't know what you might look like until we get done with you. YOu have teachers walking around, but oh. And that's why after, in the fall of the year then, once I got out that I was working on the floor. Then they said if you want to come in on Saturdays, you can. So to get more hours in. By law you can

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put 40 hours in a week, but we were only getting 4 or 5 days a week you only got 35 hours in, 7 days a week, a 7 hours a day. So I used to go down Saturday mornings then and put 5 more hours in

LH

CF You have to by law, put in 1250, twelve hundred and fifty hours, They go by hours. They don't go by ,you have a 3 year time span to get that in. You have to get a permit,

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a student permit first. And that's for 3 years. That's your going to school type thing you know. Cause some want evenings, they worked during the day and then just go evenings or go to school and evening. but that drags it out. It'd probably take you almost the three years to get it done. Well, I didn'T have a job, and I just want to school, and then I started in June. Probably about the middle of February I was finished. Because I wanted to get finished to take my April State Boards. They only give boards 4 times a year.

LH

CF Two, I was up at Harrisburg for 2 days. There's what they call a practical part and a written part. The practical is, I think it was about 9 or 10 operations that you have to go through right like you would in a shop like hair cutting, perm wrapping, finger waving, pin curls , I think it was scalp massage, and facials, which you don't even do. Not around here, you don't do that stuff. Thank goodness. Manicures...

LH

CF No I took my mom along.

LH

CF You got to take along, you got know, you gotta take a model with ya. for the practical part.

LH

CF You know you gotta find somebody whose willing to go along and go through I don't know who was more nervous that day, me or her. I was a nervous wreck, but she was just as nervous as I was, you know. Ohh my gosh! So to get, to take

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my April Board, I had to be finished the 15th of March. You gotta be finished the 15th of the month before. And I thought "home winters you have so much snow, and I won't drive in snow." And I thought what am I going to do? " So I thought of getting 40 hours in a week, and it worked it out to the middle of February. And we hardly had any snow that winter. So, I was in luck. I only missed, I didn't miss any full day. Over the summer I had to but they can Agnes, the flood was. And I missed, well we came home early early that Thursday It took us an hour and a half to get home from Reading that day cause every way wer- we tried was <unintelligible text> we couldn't get through. We came down 222 then, that's how we got through. We got down here to Danville, and somebody said, well

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the guy ahead of us turned around. He said he's not going through. And I said to Susie, "I don't care. I'm that close." And I said, "I have relation in Danville. The heck with it I said "I'll stay with them if the car stops." And we got through. But, we almost lost our brakes too coming home. Down in Danville they started that you could feel that they weren't holding. We both got home. and then Fridays there was no way. I called her early in the morning, the other girl that went along down. I said, we get a Reading paper and the one by-pass we used to travel on had 4 feet of water on it So I called her up. I said, "Forget it. We're not going anywhere this morning." Around here it wasn't that bad.

LH

CF Around here there wasn't. Ah, the following year would've been yeah the year I was working down at Reading then, we had a terrific thunderstorm one Tuesday after yeah Tuesday I didn't work, yeah it would've had to be Tuesday. Tuesday afternoons. We had a terrific thunderstorm, and we had one hell of a flood here. You know, out here in the meadow right down here, anything a chicken house went down through, and a couple poles and a couple of trees. Farther there's a little bit of a creek down here. And a well, that overflowed, and it just took

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everything along as it went. We had , we had more of a mess that time.

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LH

CF Un hm. Agnes, it didn't seem that bad, 'cause I know I talked with my neighbor woman Fridays, and she said <unintelligible text> what are you doing at home? <gap> "Well I said, "It's too bad down that way to even go." And then we didn't have school yet Monday of that the next week. They didn't have water on <unintelligible text> until Tuesday. They left us come in Tuesday, but we weren't allowed to use any water.

LH

CF Well, we did a lot of our book work then. Cause we had that stuff so we did that. They said maybe by dinner we'll have water. And then by I think around dinnertime they said now we can start using water. So we didn't do that much from about 9 to about 12, but books and that was about it.

LH

CF Yeah. You have to know for State Boards, and then for the written, well when you're, even when you're working on the practical part. They come around and ask you questions while you're working like well even, like they said on the scalp massage and stuff. It just

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depends who your, what your inspector's like. He might say, "WEll a you know what bone are you on now and stuff. So you had to know the bones and the muscles and the nerves and blood vessels of the head. I don't remember them now. I knew them for STate Boards, and now I don't know, I wouldn't know em <unintelligible text> that if you ak asked. Some I'd remember, but...

LH

CF You know who cares?

LH

CF Well, I'd probably stand there and <unintelligible text>, "What the heck?" You know good grief. But, it just a, we had to know it. And I think for the written part we had to know it. The written part wasn't bad. That was true and false and multiple choice. It was a hundred multiple choice, and 25 true and false. The true and